

GOVERNOR'S FAMILY VIOLENCE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 27, 2016

Heritage Office Complex – Chesapeake Room

ATTENDEES

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Holly Barrett on behalf of Colonel William Pallozzi, Michael Cohen, Jessica Dickerson on behalf of Secretary Sam Abed, Julie Drake on behalf of Rick Barth, Debbie Feinstein, Glenn Fueston, Dorothy Lennig, Vernice Renee McKee on behalf of Secretary Sam Malhotra, Lisa Nitsch, Scott Patterson, Akeda Pearson, Adam Rosenberg, David Shultie, Carrie Williams on behalf Attorney General Brian Frosh, Brett Wilson, David Wolinski on behalf of Secretary Stephen Moyer, S. Lee Woods on behalf of Secretary Van T. Mitchell, and Jeanne Yeager.

COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Jack R. Smith, Michelle Fager, Arlene Lee, Manuel Ruiz, Lt. Governor Boyd K. Rutherford, Senator Bryan Simonaire, and Delegate Kriselda Valderrama.

STAFF: Kim Herndon and Nakita Long

GUESTS: Jodi Finkelstein, Michelle Siri, Anne Weatherholt, and Cornelius H. Woodson, Sr.

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS: Nakita Long began the meeting at approximately 10:05 a.m. Introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- ❖ Motion: Approve the Minutes of January 11, 2016
- ❖ Vote: Seconded and unanimously approved with the following correction:
 - Add Scott Patterson and Holley Barrett to the list of present Council members.

WELCOME GOCCP'S NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- ❖ Glenn Fueston, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) introduced himself to members of the Council and expressed his interest in learning from and working with the Council to advance the mission.

2016 MARYLAND CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS CONFERENCE

- ❖ The Maryland State Board of Victim Services and the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention held its first Crime Victims Rights Conference on Friday, April 15, 2016. The Conference was attended by the Governor and approximately 450 guests. It provided an opportunity for attendees to learn from and network with peers about emerging victims' issues. Some of the topics included human trafficking, Justice Reinvestment Initiative, family justice centers, victims' rights laws, etc.

LEGISLATION

- ❖ An update of this year's legislative session was provided:
 - HB 155/SB 278 Domestic Violence – Additional Relief
 - This bill expands the relief available in a final protective order by authorizing a judge to order “any other relief that a judge determines is necessary to protect a person eligible for relief from abuse.” This bill would provide more flexibility for judges to order any other appropriate relief and tailor the order specific to the case
 - Passed
 - HB 314/SB 346 Peace Orders – Grounds for Relief
 - This bill adds misuse of telephone facilities and equipment, misuse of electronic communication or interactive computer service, revenge porn, and visual surveillance to

the list of offenses for which a petitioner can file for a Peace Order. These additional offenses expand the list of harassing and stalking behaviors currently in the law.

- Passed
- HB 534/SB 924 Family Law – Protective Orders – Notification of Sunset Repeal
 - This bill repeals the termination date of the provisions of law related to notice of the service on a respondent of specified protective orders.
 - Passed
- The Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence’s Legislative Agenda Final Report was provided which provided an overview of additional domestic violence bills and other bills of interest.

WORKGROUPS

- ❖ Abusers Not Meeting Conditions of Court Orders
 - Cornelius Woodson advised that all of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) is in the process of developing the module for violation of probation tracking, swift and certain and certain sanctions. It is expected to be completed by February 2017.
- ❖ Domestic Violence in the Presence of a Child
 - The “Fighting in the Home: Is Your Child Being Affected?” brochure that was created by the workgroup has now been finalized. Once funds have been secured for printing and dissemination costs, brochures will be disseminated to victim service agencies. Nakita Long will also work with John McGinnis, Maryland State Department of Education in an effort to have the brochures disseminated in schools and libraries in Maryland.
- ❖ Best Practices for Family Justice Centers
 - A focus group was held on Thursday, October 22, 2015 to obtain input from the victim community and determine how systems within a Family Justice Center would be used and where they would need to be placed. However due to the number of participants, it was suggested to conduct a second focus group. Due to varying schedules a second focus group has not yet been scheduled.
 - The workgroup will also focus its efforts on conducting a needs assessment of service providers to determine what victims needs are and what resources are needed throughout the state.
- ❖ AIP Certification and Audit Process Review
 - Dr. Tara Richards, University of Baltimore and Dr. Chris Murphy, University of Maryland worked with the workgroup and applied for and received BJAG funding to conduct a process evaluation of abuse intervention programs. The process evaluation is to determine what the philosophies and goals are of AIPs in Maryland, what the current practices are, how AIPs are adhering to the Guidelines, etc. Fifteen programs are participating in the process evaluation. Those programs who are participating will forego the audit/recertification process this year.
 - A discussion was held regarding the quality assurance of abuse intervention programs. Training continues to be an issue for service providers and facilitators due to varying reasons; however training is a mandatory component of certification. It was suggested that the Governor’s Office of Crime Control & Prevention provide support for programs by assisting hosts with trainings and rotating trainings.
- ❖ Domestic Violence Mapping Project
 - Data mapping has historically been used to map crime data. The Domestic Violence Mapping workgroup is working with Washington College to map domestic violence data.
 - A Domestic Violence Analysis was provided to Council members using data from the Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence looking at the services received by clients, lethality screenings, location distance from service providers and location distance from transportation.
 - The group discussed various ways in which the maps can be helpful to show the following:
 - where arrest are made;
 - where protective orders are;
 - determine demographics by overlaying census data;
 - target/outreach;
 - contract with transportation service; and

- determine marketing strategies efficacy, etc.
- ❖ New Workgroup Topic – FY 2017
 - The new workgroup topics proposed for FY 2017 were as follows:
 - Social Emotional Learning
 - Implementation of Gun Removal Bill (Coordination Process)
 - Healthy Teen Dating Relationships
 - Prosecution of Domestic Violence Cases (Training Resource Sharing)
 - Awareness of Impact – Attorney’s Training – Best Interest of Child in Domestic Violence Cases

ABUSE INTERVENTION PROGRAM CERTIFICATION (2016)

- ❖ The 2016 Applications for Abuse Intervention Program Certification has been posted on the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention’s website. Applications are due May 27, 2016.

VINE PROTECTIVE ORDER:

- ❖ VPO Statistics
 - During the month of January 2016, there were 3,177 protective orders issued. There were 389 registrations which mean that 12% of the total numbers of protective orders issued had related VPO registrations.
 - During the month of February 2016, there were 3,511 protective orders issued. There were 479 registrations which mean that 14% of the total numbers of protective orders issued had related VPO registrations.
 - During the month of March 2016, there were 3,833 protective orders issued. There were 598 registrations which mean that 16% of the total numbers of protective orders issued had related VPO registrations.
- ❖ Training
 - Nakita Long advised she will work with Appriss, Maryland’s VPO vendor, to schedule a statewide training at the MD Police and Correctional Training Commissions for sometime in September or October 2016 and also to host Webinars throughout the year.
 - Nakita Long noted that VPO usage has been steady and she will continue to provide VPO training to various agencies as requested.
- ❖ Issues
 - No issues were noted however, FVC members were reminded to contact Nakita Long should they experience any issues while using VPO.
- ❖ Brochures
 - Brochures will be ordered soon and disseminated to law enforcement, commissioner’s offices, courts and victim service agencies.

FVC MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

- ❖ The membership term for several Council members is set to expire on June 30, 2016.
- ❖ There is a new procedure to seek reappointment.
 - All applicants need to apply by submitting a resume; CV and Ethics form online at govappointments.maryland.gov.
 - Once all documentation has been submitted online, a copy of each document should be emailed to the Family Violence Council Coordinator at nakita.long@maryland.gov with an email indicating that the forms have been submitted.

ADJOURNMENT:

- ❖ Meeting adjourned approximately 12:00 PM.

NEXT MEETING:

- ❖ The next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2016 at 10:00 AM at the Heritage Office Complex in Annapolis.